

Same Day Surgery at Florida Hospital Flagler

This introduction is designed to prepare you for your hospital stay and postoperative care. Our unit staff consists of very qualified Registered Nurses with several years of experience. We provide many services for our community while implementing our Christian mission of hope, health, and healing in all that we do. We provide preoperative and postoperative care, as well as therapeutic care including blood transfusions, out-patient antibiotic therapy and interventional radiology procedures. The following information will explain a typical day for our patients in Same Day Surgery. It will also have answers to frequently asked questions.

STEP 1: **REGISTRATION**

When you enter the Same Day Surgery waiting room, your first stop will be at the registration desk. The registration clerk will check you in and take you to the pre-operative holding area. On occasion, there may be a short wait after you register. We ask that you arrive 2 hours before your scheduled surgery to allow enough time to assure all necessary and unexpected additional preparations are completed.

STEP 2: **PRE-OPERATIVE HOLDING**

You will be introduced to your nurse who will assist you with every aspect of preparing for your planned procedure. If you are scheduled for a surgical or endoscopic procedure, you will be assisted with changing into your hospital gown as needed. After you have changed, one of our experienced Registered Nurses will review your medical history with you and complete a preoperative assessment process to make certain nothing has changed and you are properly prepared for your procedure. An IV (intravenous access site) will be started and any final lab studies requested by our physicians will be completed. Most times, some type of anesthesia is required and the anesthesia provider will interview you to discuss the type of anesthesia recommended and get your permission to care for you while you are having your procedure.

There are times you will have to wait longer than expected before it is time for your procedure. Determining the exact time needed for every procedure performed can be very difficult. Therefore, we wish to apologize in advance for any potential delays.

STEP 3: **THE OPERATING ROOM**

Operating rooms can be colder than you would expect and are very bright. On occasion your room may seem to be a very busy place with a lot of activity; this is quite routine. You will likely be given a preoperative sedative as we prepare to take you to the operating room. Your operating room nurse and your anesthesia provider will assist you onto the operating room bed. You will be secured using a safety strap around your midsection or upper thighs as the beds are narrow. You will be offered a warm blanket to comfort you. Your anesthesia provider will speak with you as he or she prepares you for your anesthesia. Your anesthesia provider will tell you when to anticipate the effects of the anesthesia medications before you go to sleep. When you wake up your anesthesia provider will be the first person you speak with. You will be transported from the operating room to our recovery room. Please do not be surprised if you do not remember every aspect of your care. Some medications impact your short term memory for a brief time.

GI SERVICES

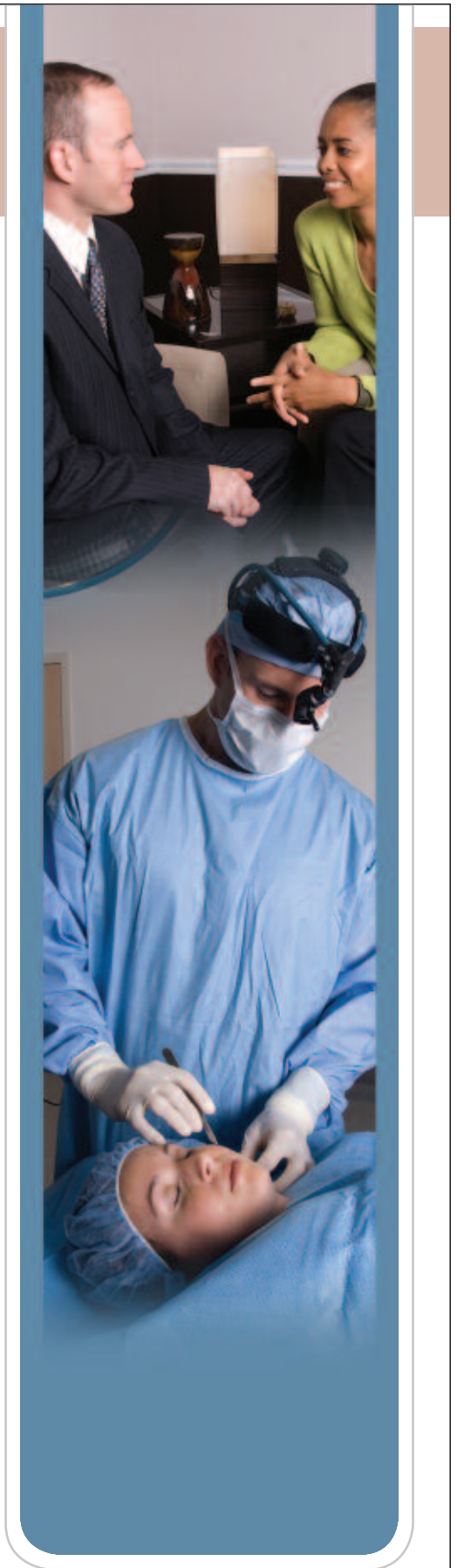
GI procedures are scheduled, on average every 30 minutes, and are more predictable time-wise than surgical procedures. The preparations are very similar to the same processes for preparing surgical patients.

STEP 4: **RECOVERY ROOM**

You will arrive in our recovery room in a very sleepy state. Our nurses will monitor all aspects of your recovery very closely. Most patients are ready to leave our recovery room in about 30-45 minutes. You will stay longer if necessary to better control your pain or other needs that may arise.

STEP 5: **BACK TO SAME DAY SURGERY**

If you are having out-patient surgery, you will come back to one of our private rooms. If your procedure requires you to stay overnight you will be transported to a room upstairs on the surgical floor. When you arrive back in same day surgery we will monitor your vital signs and general well-being for approximately 30 minutes to an hour. You will receive pain medication as needed, instructions from your doctor and will have to meet certain criteria before you can go home. You must have someone drive you home after your procedure.



FLORIDA HOSPITAL
Flagler

386/586-2090

Frequently Asked Questions:

- Q.** Why shouldn't I eat after midnight?
A. Your stomach needs to be empty for anesthesia. If you were to be put to sleep on a full stomach you run the risk of possibly inhaling stomach contents or food particles into your lungs, which is called aspiration and can result in a life threatening condition.
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- Q.** Why do I have to remove my dentures?
A. When you are under anesthesia your dentures may become dislodged and slide to the back of your throat and block your airway. If you have anything in your mouth that is removable, the anesthesiologist will request that you remove it to secure everything in your mouth.
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- Q.** Why do I have to remove all of my jewelry?
A. During surgery electrical devices are used to control bleeding. There are additional risks associated with this technology when metal jewelry is present; you could actually get burned if you are wearing jewelry or anything metal. We ask that you remove any jewelry, body piercings, hair pins, glasses or anything on your body that contains metal.
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- Q.** Can I eat after surgery?
A. Yes, you can eat unless your doctor states otherwise. You will be served a small snack in Same Day Surgery.
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- Q.** Should I shower and brush my teeth the morning of Surgery?
A. Yes. You should shower with an antibacterial soap the morning of surgery. Please brush your teeth, but do not swallow any water or toothpaste. You may also rinse your mouth.
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- Q.** Why must I remove my undergarments for a simple procedure, such as a surgery on an extremity?
A. Undergarments unfortunately get in the way of many procedures and we often use prepping solutions that can permanently stain your undergarments.
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- Q.** Why do I need a pregnancy test if my husband had a vasectomy or if I had my tubes tied?
A. A vasectomy and a tubal ligation are only 99.9% effective. Your doctors must be aware if you are pregnant as this can change the anticipated plan of anesthesia and surgical care.
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- Q.** Why must I arrive 2 hours ahead of my scheduled surgery?
A. In order to have you ready for the operating room on time, you must arrive 2 hours early to make sure that all of your necessary pre-operative testing is complete.
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- Q.** Will my family be updated on my progress while I am in the operating room?
A. Yes. The operating room nurse will call out to the waiting room with an update during long procedures. Please encourage your family member to feel free to inquire about your progress during your procedure.
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- Q.** Can I chew gum or suck on a hard candy the morning of surgery?
A. No. Chewing gum or sucking on a hard candy will stimulate the stomach to produce gastric contents and this will put you at risk for aspiration.

PATIENT AND FAMILY PARKING

When you pull into the hospital parking lot, you will bear to the right and follow the road around until you see the Same Day Surgery entrance. You will make a left into that parking lot and you may park in any of the spaces provided.

CONTACT NUMBERS

When you arrive home if you have any questions concerning your surgery, procedure or postoperative care instructions, please feel free to call the Same Day Surgery department at **386/586-2090**. A registered nurse will be available to take your call and answer your questions from **5:30am-6:30pm Monday through Friday**.



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We hope you will enjoy your stay with us at Same Day Surgery Florida Hospital Flagler as much as we will enjoy having you as a patient.